

The Hongkong Telegraph.

N^o. 3060

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1892.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £350,000.

LONDON:

Head Office: 40, Threadneedle Street.
West End Office: 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT,
Bills and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE,
Issues Letters of CREDIT, forwards BILLS for
Collection, and Transacts Banking and
Agency Business generally, on terms to be had
on application.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,000,000.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:—
D. Gillies, Esq., Chairman.
Chow Tung Shing, Esq.,
W. Wotton, Esq.,
C. J. Hirst, Esq.,
Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq.,
Chief Manager.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN LONDON.

THOMAS CARMICHAEL, Esq.—Messrs. Dent,
Palmer & Co.
JOHN BUTTERY, Esq.—Messrs. John Battey &
Co.
C. B. STUART-WORTLEY, Esq., M.P., for Hullam.
GEO. MUNRO, Manager.

BANKERS:—

LONDON: The Alliance Bank (Ld.)
Scotland: The Commercial Bank of Scotland.

SHANGHAI.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
His Ex. Hui Fu Yuen, Esq.,
Ma Kie Tchung, Esq.,
Tong Kwai Sang, Esq.,
C. J. GALLOWAY, Manager.

AMOI.—J. ANDERSON, Manager.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened. Money
received on Deposit. Drafts issued. Bills
purchased and collected. Advances made on
Securities or goods in neutral Godowns. Usual
Bank Agency business undertaken.
Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per Cent.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS 3 " 4 " 5 " 6 " 7 " 8 " 9 " 10 " 11 " 12 " 13 " 14 " 15 " 16 " 17 " 18 " 19 " 20 " 21 " 22 " 23 " 24 " 25 " 26 " 27 " 28 " 29 " 30 " 31 " 32 " 33 " 34 " 35 " 36 " 37 " 38 " 39 " 40 " 41 " 42 " 43 " 44 " 45 " 46 " 47 " 48 " 49 " 50 " 51 " 52 " 53 " 54 " 55 " 56 " 57 " 58 " 59 " 60 " 61 " 62 " 63 " 64 " 65 " 66 " 67 " 68 " 69 " 70 " 71 " 72 " 73 " 74 " 75 " 76 " 77 " 78 " 79 " 80 " 81 " 82 " 83 " 84 " 85 " 86 " 87 " 88 " 89 " 90 " 91 " 92 " 93 " 94 " 95 " 96 " 97 " 98 " 99 " 100 " 101 " 102 " 103 " 104 " 105 " 106 " 107 " 108 " 109 " 110 " 111 " 112 " 113 " 114 " 115 " 116 " 117 " 118 " 119 " 120 " 121 " 122 " 123 " 124 " 125 " 126 " 127 " 128 " 129 " 130 " 131 " 132 " 133 " 134 " 135 " 136 " 137 " 138 " 139 " 140 " 141 " 142 " 143 " 144 " 145 " 146 " 147 " 148 " 149 " 150 " 151 " 152 " 153 " 154 " 155 " 156 " 157 " 158 " 159 " 160 " 161 " 162 " 163 " 164 " 165 " 166 " 167 " 168 " 169 " 170 " 171 " 172 " 173 " 174 " 175 " 176 " 177 " 178 " 179 " 180 " 181 " 182 " 183 " 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Hongkong, January 23rd. 1893

ment, there will be only two afternoon performances every week, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

being kept, in working order, was urged
and seen for not only watertight doors,
all the other details and gear in connection with
machinery.

transported the body to the American consulate, suspecting nothing, and little thinking that the man carrying it was *cadavere*. And so, thanks to Henry's ready wit, a very grave scandal was avoided. The next day, of course, the papers had the startling news that the U.S. representative had died suddenly in his house after returning from the palace, and so the occasion passed out of memory. Whether Pope Henry's decided in the commissariat, or told that he was in the commissariat, is uncertain. It is certain, however, that the budding General of Hong Kong earned the undying gratitude of a somewhat renegade and very pretty woman, who has since those days considerable influence in more than one quarter.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by
Correspondents in this column.)

MR. MITCHELL EXPLAINS.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HOSPITALER TIMES."
SIR,—Having read the report of the annual
meeting of the Institution of Engineers
Shipbuilders, I think it due to myself as well

reasoning is fallacious. Look how England developed since she adopted free trade. I

United States would adopt a like policy America would soon govern the markets of the whole world. In France, where it is impossible to develop our resources further, there is some excuse for protection, but not in America where the possibilities of development are unbounded.

The correspondent of the *Star* at Brazzaville on the French Congo announces that Explorer De Brazza, now Governor of the colony, is making preparations for an expedition of considerable magnitude in the direction of Lake Tchad.

The correspondent goes on to say that Brazza has been making preparations for this since he learned of the failure of M. Crampel, whose failure he foresees on account of the insufficiency of his outfit.

Several months ago Brazza collected large quantities of food supplies, medicines, arms and ammunition on the banks of the Sangha and Abanghi. He possesses, rails, heavy guns and portable boats, and has recruited several detachments of the native militia of Senegal, whom he has brought by different routes to Brazzaville, where he now has centred a small army of 1,200 men, ready to march on Lake Tchad.

His Senegalese to the number of 600 are armed with modern breechloaders and are commanded by thirty Europeans. The entire force is provisioned for two years.

According to the *Figaro* the Conservatives of Brest have chosen the Archbishop of Aix, who was recently fined for sedition, to contest the seat in the Chamber just left vacant by the death of Bishop Freppel.

An express train from Paris to Brussels came in collision with a freight train near Mons to-day. Ten persons were injured.

VIENNA, December 27th.
A communication from Warsaw says that an official order has been issued closing the Catholic churches at Wladyslaw and Buzak, and that other towns will receive the same orders very soon. This action is said to be taken in obedience to direct orders from the Czar, who is more than ever determined to stamp out all creeds not in accord with the Orthodox Church.

A wealthy man named Hambeck of Graz shot his sons, aged 6 and 7, and then committed suicide, having an idea that his sons, who stammered, had an hereditary taint of insanity.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 27th.
It has been discovered that the four for the family relief which the municipality purchased at an exorbitant rate has been adulterated until it is unfit for food.

Typhus and typhoid fever are prevalent among the prisoners at Samara. The doctors whose duty it is to attend the sick prisoners are in despair and have not visited their charges for a month. The rapid increase in the number of deaths is due to the famine reported here.

ST. ETIENNE, December 27th.
John Cooper and Walter Pedwell, Englishmen, arrested in November for offering a bribe to the workmen of the same factory here to procure the services of the new French and Russian carriages, have been convicted. Cooper was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and a fine of \$600, and Pedwell to two months and a fine of \$200.

WASHINGTON, December 27th.
Alexander Gregor, charge d'affaires of the Russian Legation, referring to the reports of unrelieved distress in Russia, said that the Government and people are doing everything in their power to relieve distress.

CITY OF MEXICO, December 27th.
The Governor of Durango telegraphs that in the State the people are being committed for trial on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government, said yesterday that he intended to show who the real culprits were when his case came to trial, intimating that he would summon several Cabinet Ministers and members of Parliament to prove that all the money he received from the public works contractors went into the Treasury fund, and some Ministers now prosecuting him profited by his relations with the contractors, and handed a portion of the money which he claims was obtained with their full knowledge that it was to be used for political purposes.

ROME, December 27th.
It is announced that the United States has agreed to pay Italy the sum asked as indemnity to the relatives of the men lynched in New Orleans. Indemnity will be paid only for the deaths of those known to have been Italian subjects.

BUNOS AYRES, December 27th.
Roca and Pellegrini declare Mitre is the only possible candidate for the Presidency.

BRUSSELS, December 27th.
The agitation here against the Belgians' entering into a treaty of commerce with Germany is extending. The *Journal La Reforme* declares that despite the opposition the treaty will be adopted.

BERN, December 27th.
It has been learned that the man who was killed in Genie p.s. They tried to cross the pass and were swallowed up in an avalanche.

LONDON, December 28th.
Alfred Cellier the composer is dead. He had been suffering from influenza for two weeks, and was unable to finish the orchestration of "The Mountebanks," a comic opera, the joint work of himself and W. S. Gilbert, in time for the production at the date first set.

Alfred Cellier will be mourned by a wide circle of good friends and personally by many great favorites, and after many years of more or less disappointment, he made a great success with his opera of "Dorothy," which was a charming work. Before that he had written many songs and much music which became popular, and made reputations for others, who owed a great deal to his assistance.

The English nobility probably will be pleased at the receipt of the news that the Countess Clancarty, formerly the well-known music hall singer Belle Bilton, and still later known as Lady Dunsing, gave birth yesterday to twins, two boys, one of whom becomes Lord Dunsing. The difference in the ages of the young twins is said to be only twenty minutes. The younger of the two will probably be sorry for the rest of his life that he was late less than half an hour. The Countess Clancarty telegraphed to a friend from Upper Hare Park: "Nothing succeeds like success. A double bill to-night. Pantomime not in it." The Countess took a leading part in the Drury Lane pantomime just a year ago.

These twins imply provision for the direct succession to the Earldom of Clancarty and several other titles which belong to the holder of that earldom. It is believed the event will lead to a complete reunion of the family relations, which were badly strained by the marriage of the present Earl, who was then Viscount Dunlop, to the well-known concert-hall singer.

Dispatches from Warsaw state that the Grand Duke Sergius, who is to be removed from the Governorship of Moscow, has been tampering with the loyalty of Russian officials in Wilna, Moscow and Warsaw, and that he is now suspected to be at the head of a conspiracy to overthrow the Czar. Wholesale arrests have been made and more are expected to follow. It is stated that the Grand Duke is to be sent to Central Asia to command some post, and that he will be accompanied by officers instructed to prevent his return. The Grand Duke Sergius is the recognized head of the old Russian orthodox party, and has up to the present time stood in high favor with the Czar. The gravest charges are made against his administration of the funds of the Red Cross Society sent for the relief of famine sufferers.

PARIS, December 28th.
An account of wreck and loss of life has been received from Arcachon, a fisheries port thirty-five miles from Bordeaux. The French steamer *Albatross*, engaged in the oyster fishery at Arcachon, was wrecked, and eleven of her crew, in fact the whole crew with the exception of one man, were drowned.

An old man living in the Eastern department killed his son in a quarrel over a legacy. When the gentleman arrived to arrest him he was barred himself in the house. He fired at a gentleman whereupon a second gentleman fired his pistol at the murderer and killed him.

The 11th of February has been fixed for the marriage of Miss Mattie Mitchell to the Duc de Rochefoucauld, which will probably be celebrated in the private chapel in the nunciature or residence of the Papal-Nuncio to the French republic. The family say that the Senator will not be able to come to Europe to attend his daughter's wedding.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 28th.
The police have made a large number of arrests in Russian Poland as the result of the discovery of a secret league, the object of which was to assassinate the Czar. It is thought many persons connected with the conspiracy have taken flight at the knowledge of their plans by the police and will seek safety by fleeing from the country, so the authorities have ordered the frontier to be closely watched, and it is believed further arrests will shortly be made.

At Millau, the capital of Courland, Baron Han, a well known land owner, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for starting down an imperial coat-of-arms which stood over the door of the court at that place.

The scandal arising from the discovery of adulterated flour here is apt to make trouble for a number of people. The consignment comprised 500,000 pounds (800,000 English pounds) of barley-flour purchased from dealers in Libau with a view of regulating the price of wheat in the St. Petersburg market, as well as to afford relief to the famine sufferers. An investigation proved that the entire consignment was adulterated with chalk dust and other substances. These comprised such a large proportion of the consignment that the use of the alleged flour would have constituted a very dangerous menace to the health; if not the lives, of those who partook of it.

In speaking of this gigantic fraud the *Novoye Vremya* remarks that if such frauds can be perpetrated in the capital of the empire the appalling accounts of similar crimes in the famine-stricken provinces cannot be exaggerated.

ROME, December 28th.
The Duchess Isabella of Genoa, sister of the Queen of Italy, is suffering from influenza. The disease is widely prevalent in Florence and Bergamo.

The tomb erected by Pope Leo to Pope Innocent was unveiled yesterday with great pomp.

WASHINGTON, December 28th.
Chile must express her regrets for the assault upon the Baltimore sailors and pay to the families of the murdered seamen a snug indemnity. She must do this within two weeks. Her refusal will mean war with the United States. The Chilean man-of-war *Capitán Prat*, now at Honolulu, will be allowed to leave that port until this difficulty has been settled. An officer of the navy has been watching the *Capitán Prat*, and he reports to this Government every stroke of work which puts that formidable cruiser nearer sea service. In safe time, before it is possible to place the *Capitán Prat* in commission, the United States will declare war, if at that time the demand for the apology and indemnity made by this Government on the authorities at Santiago shall remain uncompleted with.

OTTAWA (Ont.), December 28th.
Hon. Thomas McGreevy, formerly a member of Parliament, who has been committed for trial on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government, said yesterday that he intended to show who the real culprits were when his case came to trial, intimating that he would summon several Cabinet Ministers and members of Parliament to prove that all the money he received from the public works contractors went into the Treasury fund, and some Ministers now prosecuting him profited by his relations with the contractors, and handed a portion of the money which he claims was obtained with their full knowledge that it was to be used for political purposes.

RIO JANEIRO, December 28th.
It is rumored that the Imperialists are working hard to bring about the restoration of the empire. The *Prensa Haer*, an Imperialist paper, has suspended publication. The editor, in his farewell, exclaims that there is no longer any liberty of opinion allowed in this country.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.
The annual meeting of members was held yesterday evening (January 28th) at the Shanghai Club. Mr. A. McLeod presided, supported by Messrs. Herbert Smith, R. E. Bredon, R. McKenzie, H. J. H. Tripp, A. O. Schuchbauer and R. A. Clarke (Stewards). There was a large attendance.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary (Mr. Barrow Dallas).

The Chairman said he hoped the members would consider the accounts, which had been in their hands for some few days, as satisfactory as the Stewards thought them. The total expenditure for the year as shown by the accounts was Tls. 33,391.27, as against in 1890 Tls. 20,385, but in this expenditure was included the sum of Tls. 5,000, being the balance of the mortgage on the Bellevue property, which had been paid for, against Tls. 2,200 only paid off in 1890. He thought they must all consider it very satisfactory that in the few short years since they purchased the Bellevue property they had paid for it entirely, and it was now the quite unencumbered property of the members of the Shanghai Race Club. (Applause.) Another item in the accounts was the Tls. 1,000 less expended in repairs as against 1890. Having in view the improvement of the Grand Stand, the Stewards thought it better not to run into expenditure for temporary repairs. The price in 1891 was Tls. 12,000 against Tls. 11,387 in 1890—an increase of Tls. 700. This was a very satisfactory way of spending any surplus income they had. The balance they carried forward was Tls. 2,235 as against Tls. 5,100 last year. If they turned to the other side of the account they would find that the total income for 1891 was within a few hundred taels of what it was in 1890, the amount being Tls. 30,717 in 1891, and Tls. 20,336 in 1890. They were fortunate in having 246 subscribers to the accounts as against 235 last year. The number of joining members was identical the same—30. The total entries were nearly the same. Last year they were Tls. 10,580, and the year before Tls. 10,155. The Bellevue mortgage item had disappeared, and in the fixed deposit account there was an alteration. The Chairman then explained the steps which had been taken to bring the Hart Legacy up to an amount which would bring in Tls. 100 annually, and said that as the Hongkong Bank had reduced its rate of interest from 5 to 4½ per cent, the Stewards had felt it necessary to look out for another investment. They had accordingly purchased the Land Investment Co.'s 6 per cent debentures mentioned in the accounts, and would now be able to give Tls. 120 instead of Tls. 100 for the Hart Legacy. (Applause.) After referring to the balance on the Racecourse Account as being one which every year became larger in the Club's favour, the Chairman concluded by expressing his readiness to answer questions.

Mr. T. Brown said he noticed that auditors' fees appeared in the accounts for the first time. He thought there were probably thirty or forty members who would gladly give their services as auditors for nothing.

The Chairman replied that as one gentleman, who was now absent from Shanghai, had done the work gratuitously for many years, and as last year it was really an object to him to have the fee, it was thought right that he should have it. The amount was a very small one and the Race Club need not hesitate to give it.

Mr. Brown said he was aware the amount was a very small one, but as it was a new item attention ought to have been called to it.

The Chairman said he had intended to mention it, but had forgotten to do so.

The Chairman then moved, Mr. R. E. Bredon seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the statement of accounts for the year 1891 be accepted and passed.

The Chairman said the next business was the election of Stewards. He was pleased to see there were the names of two gentlemen willing to serve in addition to the retiring Stewards, who were ready to act again. A good many of the present Stewards had served many years, and although they felt it a great honour to be elected year after year, still an infusion of new blood was desirable, and he for one would be quite willing to retire. ("No, no.")

The meeting then proceeded to the election, with the result (announced later) that all the retiring Stewards were declared duly elected.

The Chairman said it would be remembered that at the meeting held on the 23rd September last year a resolution was passed authorizing the Stewards to expend a sum not exceeding Tls. 10,000 on the improvement of the present Grand Stand and enclosure and of the Bellevue property. The Stewards had given very serious consideration to this matter, and shortly after the meeting they advertised for estimates and plans for making these alterations. They received on the 31st December three sets of plans from architects in Shanghai, and the Stewards had met several times to discuss the merits of these plans and decide as to which to adopt.

The Stewards had come to the conclusion that the plans sent in by Mr. Cory were the best suited to the requirements, and the cost of effecting the enlargement of the Grand Stand and the enclosure, and the repairs and alterations to the Bellevue property were well within the limit which the members had put. He did not know that he could say more than that the enclosure would be very much enlarged by throwing in a considerable portion of the Bellevue property. The Bellevue stand itself, the lease of which expired early in May, immediately after spring meeting, would be converted into a second-class stand in the same way as the stand at Hongkong was used. The present Grand Stand would be very much enlarged. A platform would be placed in front of it to bring it almost to the line of the present grass plot. The Stewards were of opinion that these alterations and repairs would improve the property very much indeed, and the amount expended on it would be very well spent. Of course it was possible that some members might prefer to see an entirely new Grand Stand. That, the Stewards considered, would be too large an undertaking to go in for at present; and he was sure the members would give whoever were elected Stewards this year credit for doing the best they could in the interests of the Club. The plans would be on view later on at the Grand Stand, for members to see, but he thought it desirable that the Stewards should have full power to accept what they considered to be the very best plans. The Chairman then referred in complimentary terms to the return of the Clerk of the Course, Mr. Gore-Booth, and said that during the last racing season owners were in despair at the wet state of the ground, but, owing the energy and care of Mr. Gore-Booth, the course was just as good as it could be. (Heard, heard.)

The election of a Ballotting Committee was then proceeded with, and the following members were declared elected:—

Messrs. A. McLeod, R. E. Bredon, Herbert Smith, A. O. Schuchbauer, Robt. Mackenzie, H. J. H. Tripp, R. A. Clarke, C. Beumman, C. A. L. Dunn, J. Graham, F. Gove, E. G. Dow, R. de Malherbe, W. Meyerling, R. W. Mustard, R. Palamounis, E. A. Probst, W. Bruce Robertson, W. H. Short, and Henry Silva.

Mr. Rattunje suggested that the race for the Taotai Cup should be ridden by water weights, of which there were now several in the Club. He hoped the entrance fees would be added to the stakes, for at present the winner, while only receiving Tls. 75, had to pay out Tls. 10 for the Champions and Tls. 5 for the Shanghai Stakes.

The Chairman promised that the suggestions would receive every attention.

Mr. H. H. Read pointed out that in the 7-furlong race on the third day, the winner of the Criterion Stakes (miles) was not handicapped, though presumably running against inferior horses in the long race. He also hoped the Stewards would their way to arrange a scale of entrance fees for the Champions which would be fairer to owners who won only one small race. For instance, the winner of the half-mile race and the Taotai Cup had to pay Tls. 10 for the first and Tls. 15 for the second, out of Tls. 175. This was rather hard on owners running ponies against men who took Tls. 500 or 600 in prizes. He thought the Champions entrance fees ought to be reckoned according to the value of the stakes won.

The Chairman said there seemed to be a good deal of reason in what the last speaker said. It was difficult to please everybody, but a note would be made of the suggestions, and they would be considered when the programme was being drawn up by the Stewards.

Mr. Gore-Booth acknowledged the Chairman's reference to him, and the meeting terminated with the usual compliment to the chair.—*N. C. Daily News.*

COREA.

A Chemulpo correspondent writing under date 15th January to the *Shanghai Mercury* reports that some anti-foreign placards have been posted about the capital of the Hermit Kingdom and its suburbs, and he expresses the opinion that certain emissaries of the *Kolai-hu* society are probably at the bottom of the movement. We doubt it, for it is well known that the existence of missionaries is not recognized in the Anglo-Cororean and American-Cororean treaties, and very rightly so, too. And as the which appears to have given rise to a high feeling in certain circles has occurred in connection with certain American proselytizers, there is reason to believe that the Cororean Foreign Office officials who have, it seems, declined to visit American missionaries' little deeds, have some show of reason on their side. To assist our readers in grasping the situation it is perhaps necessary to state that there is a large number of missionaries, chiefly Americans, in Seoul, that they have bought up a considerable area of the best building sites in that city, and pretend to proselytize and distribute tracts and bibles in the interior, in direct contravention of the 1883 treaties. From what we know of the Cororean Government and people we have no hesitation in stating that the assumption that there is at present any anti-foreign movement is preposterous in the extreme. Some missionaries may be stupid and even killed, but the object of the riots, if such there be, is undoubtedly the embarrassment of a corrupt and inept administration which by misrule has brought the country to the very verge of hopeless bankruptcy. How long such a country, which is useless for itself and a danger to others, will be allowed to exist as a semi-independent nation is a problem which will probably be solved by Russia at no very distant date. Russia has already hinted to interested Powers that, while she has no intention of annexing the country yet, she will not tolerate its occupation by any other Power, which is tantamount to saying that she is the only Power that can occupy the country. And there is a good deal of meaning in the Russian hint which should not be lost sight of by those whose interests must be affected by any sudden outbreak of war in the Far East.

Thus the *Shanghai Mercury's* correspondent on the existing situation:—

"There is something peculiar in the wind in the capital, Seoul, which at present appears difficult to fathom. Placards have been posted all over the place to the following tune, of which I will consider a fairly good translation has been placed at my disposal:—'Koreans, willing to sell land or houses to foreigners in Seoul, must first obtain permission of the magistrate of the quarter in which the property is situated, and present the title-deeds to be stamped. All Koreans are warned against selling land or houses to foreigners, including Chinese and Japanese, because, where are our officials and people to live by-and-bye? Although treaties have been concluded with foreign nations, still we consider it wrong and abnormal to sell our inheritance and patrimony for the sake of gain and filthy lucre to aliens to the great detriment of our own people. People found to disobey this injunction by selling landed property to foreigners clandestinely will be most severely dealt with, and the most rigorous punishments permissible by law will be inflicted, without any redress whatever, and any price obtained for such property disposed of shall be confiscated irredeemably.'

This arbitrary rule has been enforced already in one instance. An American missionary, who bought some ground with buildings on the same, some time ago, had the title deeds sent to the Foreign Office, to be stamped; but they have been detained there ever since, while the seller has been arrested, and put in durance vile, and nobody seems to be aware exactly what has become of the poor fellow. Some people are inclined to think it is only intended to check the increasing army of missionaries, who largely outnumber all the other foreigners in the whole country, in direct violation of the spirit of the treaties concluded, which do not recognize missionaries; and the benighted natives may think 'what is sauce for the American goose is also sauce for the Korean fander,' and if one side lays a sly breach in solemn covenants, the pagans claim, as a *quid pro quo*, the right to do the same; but the latter, by their proclamation, do it openly. However, the action of the Koreans is a daring disregard of existing treaties, of which Article II, sec. 2, distinctly sets forth that foreigners are entitled to purchase land and houses at Chemulpo (Jenchun) Wonsan, Fusan, Yanghoato, and Han-yang, the latter being the capital of the country; it generally goes by the name 'Seoul,' if you should prefer the French way of spelling it. 'Seoul' signifies, in the Korean language, merely 'the city, or the capital par excellence, 'the metropolis,' as it were.

I wonder what the two American generals, who ornament the Korean Home Office in Seoul as 'Vice Presidents' and Foreign Advisors to the King and Government, have got to say to this latest development of treaty interpretation. They being styled 'generals' in the current directories, are they prepared, as warlike people, to cut this Gordian knot? Their 'generalship' however, springs from the U.S. Consular service, in which 'advisors' have held the rank of Consul-General.

By this time our British Consul-General, Mr. Walter C. Hillier, will presumably be in Shanghai, to consult with his colleagues there, or may be he wants to interview the Crown Advocate on the latest phase of treaty lego drama as exercised by astute Asiatics.

There is also a law-suit on the Maritime Customs versus a British landowner, and it is just possible that this may also have something to do with the trip of our British Consul-General to China, considering that the British Minister in Korea is residing in Peking; that Sir John Walshaw, the case was on for hearing on the 8th inst., but was adjourned to the 20th, on the application of the plaintiff, the Acting Commissioner of Customs. I will let you know the result by and by, but at present the landholders are very indignant with the 'snivvy meddlingness,' as it is 'disrespectfully styled, of the Customs, in attempting to meddle with our Municipal affairs.

Nothing very stirring to report. I presume the great Siberian traveller, Dr. Macgowan, who is a passenger per steamship *Yokohama* to your port, will give you the 'guts' of the time, having weather. The on anxiety felt is about the placards posted up in Seoul; but I should not omit to add that a serious rumour has been spread amongst the natives, regarding these self-same placards, namely, that the Foreign Treaty Powers are tributary to China! Who is interested in insinuating such wild, but absurd, notions into the minds of the unsuspecting and easily gulled natives, and who is going out of his way, and to the trouble, of doing it? Who can possibly be interested in this misrepresenting the status of the Foreign Powers to the Celestial Empire? I should not be surprised a bit if some of the vile and infamous libels of the Hunan *Warrior* had been smuggled into this country, to poison the native mind against foreign residents. Yuan, the Chinese Resident in Seoul, has not returned yet, notwithstanding reports to the contrary.

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